

CHAPTER 4
SECTION 1.1

DIGITAL SUBTRACTION ANGIOGRAPHY (ALSO KNOWN AS COMPUTED DIGITAL RADIOGRAPHY)

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I. DESCRIPTION

Digital subtraction angiography is a new method of radiological imaging which allows imaging of the arterial system following the intravenous injection of contrast medium. A computer enhances the films that are produced. The procedure is less invasive and less costly than traditional angiography. The visual image is of a higher quality. In addition, the patient does not need to be hospitalized.

II. POLICY

Digitalized subtraction angiography may be covered when performed in clinical conditions where a standard angiography would be medically necessary.

III. EXCEPTIONS

This policy does not apply to coronary angiography.

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